(c) In view of the Chernobyl accident, the experts in DAE have reviewed the safety features of the Indian Nuclear Power Stations, and this review has confirmed that adequate safety measures already exist in the Indian Nuclear Power Stations. Nevertheless, lessons have been learnt from the Chernobyl accident and additional steps have been taken to further improve reliability of operation of the nuclear power stations and reinforce the existing safety practices.

Discovery of historic Dwarka in Gujarat

596. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the old historic Dwarka has been discovered from the depth of sea in Gujarat; if so, what are the details in this regard;

(b) what further progress is being made for throwing more light on the archacological study of the finds; and

(c) whether it can be linked with the original Dwarka of Lord Krishna?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir. A group led by Dr. S. R. Rao retired archaeologist of Archaeological Survey of India has reported discovery of an old historic city from the depth of the sea of Gujarat. Stone fortification walls with Bastion, a stone jetty, anchors and other buildings submerged in sea are excavated, photographed and filmed. The buildings, Anchors, seal and inscriptions found are assignable to 15 century B.C.

(b) Further analysis of scientific data is in progress. Findings of the group will be discussed in the first Indian Conference on Marine Archaeology planned to be held in October this year. Further under-water excavation work will be undertaken subject to approval by the project monitoring committee of Department of Science and Technology.

(c) the submerged fortified port city is believed to correspond to the description of Lord Krishna's Dwarka.

Interim reply to Reliance Industries Ltd. to show cause notice

597. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reliance Industries Limited in their interim reply to the show cause notice of the Deputy Collector of Customs, Bombay dated, 10th February, 1987 have asked for Bill of Entry of the consignments and the examination reports of each and every consignment relied upon by the customs authorities while framing the show cause notice;

(b) if so, whether Government have provided these documents; and

(c) whether it is a dilatory tactics adopted by Reliance Industries Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) Reliance Industries Limited had, in their interim reply, asked for inspection of documents, including bills of entry with examination reports, which have been relied upon for the allegations made in the show cause notice. The party has since inspected all documents including available bills of entry with examination reports. Final reply to the show cause notice is awaited.

FERA violation by Shri L. M. Thapar

598. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shri L. M. Thapar, industrialist, who violated FERA re-

gulations on his own admission, has paid any penalty or has since repatriated the amount involved in the admitted violations, if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that only Rs. 11 crores have to be paid by Thapar, if so, whether it is towards the penalty or repatriation; and

(c) whether it is a fact that adjudication is going on since last several months although Shri L. M. Thapar has admitted the FERA violations; if so, how many months have passed in the adjudication proceedings and what are the issues involved in adjudication?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) and (b) No penalty has been imposed on Thapar group of companies and its executives including Shri L. M. Thapar as the proceedings initiated against them are pending adjudication.

A sum of Rs. 14 crores is involved in the cases under adjudication. An amount of Rs. 1.64 crores has so far been repatriated.

(c) Adjudication proceedings commenced in December, 1986. The issues involved in the adjudication proceedings against Thapar group of companies and its executives, in brief, are as follows:—

(i) Non-repatriation of export proceeds, technical fees, commission, royalty, etc.

(ii) Invoice manipulation.

(iii) Acknowledgement of debt of the foreign companies without R.B.I.'s permission.

(iv) Violations of conditions imposed by R.B.I. in respect of joint ventures.

Adjudication proceedings against Shri L. M. Thapar under FERA

599. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri L. M. Thaper, industrialist, is facing adjudication proceedings before the Directorate of Enforcement;

(b) whether it is a fact that Shri L. M. Thapar has admitted his crime of FERA violations and also indicated the amount involved therein;

(c) if so, what is the subject matter of present adjudication proceedings against Shri Thapar; and

(d) what is the objective of the adjudication proceedings when the crime is self admitted?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) and (b) The Directorate of Enforcement have initiated adjudication proceedings against Thapar group of companies and its executives including Shri L. M. Thapar involving an amount of Rs. 14 crores. In his letter of apology, Shri L. M. Thapar has admitted violations of FERA provisions involving an amount upto Rs. 8 crores.

(c) The subject matter of adjudication proceedings against Thapar group of companies and its executives, in brief, is as follows:—

(i) Non-repatriation of export proceeds, technical fees, commission, royalty, etc.

(ii) Invoice manipulation.

(iii) Acknowledgement of debt of the foreign companies without R.B.I.'s permission.

(iv) Violations of conditions imposed by R.B.I. in respect of joint ventures.

(d) Adjudication proceedings under Sec. 51 of FERA are necessary for determining the repatriable amount and imposition of penalty.

Payment of SDR

600. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: